

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 092080

KFOLL SENT ACTION VIENTIANE

INFO RANGOON BANGKOK MANILA HONG KONG PHNOM PENH SAIGON FROM

SECSTATE 15 MAY 73 REPEATED TO YOU QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 092080

E. O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: SNAR, LA

SUBJECT: NARCOTICS: CONTROL ACTION PLAN FOR LAOS

REF: VIENTIANE 1035; A22 OF 2/21/73

1. EA INTER- AGENCY WORKING GROUP HAS NOTED SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS MADE IN STOPPING PRODUCTION OF HEROIN IN AND DIMINISHING FLOW OF OPIATE EXPORTS FROM LAOS. WORKING GROUP WOULD LIKE TO COMMEND MISSION FOR ITS IMAGINATIVE DEVELOPMENT OF AN ACTION PROGRAM WHICH IS MULTIFACETED IN ITS APPROACH TO NARCOTICS CONTROL, HAS BEEN IMPLEMENTED WITH EXTRAORDINARY SPEED, AND IS ACCOMPANIED BY EXCELLENT REPORTING.

2. UPDATED NARCOTICS CONTROL ACTION PLAN (NCAP) FOR LAOS HAS BEEN APPROVED WITH EXCEPTION OF TREATMENT/ REHABILITATION SECTIONS, FY 74 TRAINING, AND MULTI- MEDIA EXHIBIT, ALL OF WHICH ARE STILL UNDER REVIEW.

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EM CONCERNING TREATMENT/REHABILITATION PROJECTS, MISSION'S POINT THAT THESE PROJECTS NEEDED TO BALANCE PUBLIC CRITICISM IN LAOS OF US SPONSORED ENFORCEMENT EFFORT CONSIDERED VALID ONE. BUT SAODAP WISHES HAVE MORE INFORMATION (E. G. PERCENTAGE OF CLIENTS TREATED SUCCESSFULLY TO DATE, SCOPE OF PLANNED EXTENSION OF REHABILITATION ASSISTANCE INTO RURAL AREAS, FOLLOW-UP PROCEDURES, ETC.). SAODAP HOPES FOR OPPORTUNITY TO TALK WITH DR. WESTERMEYER AS SOON AS HE RETURNS FROM LAOS IN ORDER RESOLVE THESE QUESTIONS. ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION MISSION CAN PROVIDE, PARTICULARLY ON RURAL AREAS REHABILITATION ASSISTANCE, WOULD BE WELCOME ALSO.

4. OTHER THAN TENTATIVE CUSTOMS IN- COUNTRY TRAINING PLAN FOR LAOS DURING FIRST QUARTER FY 74, NO OTHER TRAINING COMMITMENTS FOR FY 74 CAN BE MADE AT THIS TIME PENDING REFINEMENT OF VARIOUS AGENCIES SCHEDULES AND TRAINING PROGRAMS. WILL ADVISE WHEN MORE INFORMATION AVAILABLE.

5. USIA WITHHOLDS APPROVAL OF PROPOSED USIS MULTI- MEDIA EXHIBIT PENDING DISCUSSION WITH PATE AT UPCOMING PAO CONFERENCE.

6. A-3995 OF APRIL 2, 1972 RECOMMENDED CERTAIN WAYS TO IMPROVE AIR TRAFFIC INTERDICTION SUCH AS MOBILE INSPECTION TEAMS, IMPROVED FLIGHT PLAN FILING, BETTER COLLECTION OF DATA ON PRIVATE AIRCRAFT, MUTUAL AGREEMENT WITH NEIGHBORING GOVERNMENTS FOR INSPECTION THEIR AIRCRAFT, ETC., AND A PROGRESS REPORT IN EARLY 1973 WAS REQUESTED. WE ARE SUGGESTING TO ALL INVOLVED POSTS THAT THESE GOALS BE INCORPORATED INTO THE YEARLY UPDATING OF THE NCAP. MISSION'S UPDATED NCAP MENTIONED SOME FACETS OF AIR TRAFFIC INTERDICTION BUT NOT ALL. WOULD APPRECIATE ANY ADDITIONAL COMMENT MISSION MIGHT WISH MAKE ON THIS ASPECT OF ENFORCEMENT.

7. ANOTHER SUGGESTION UNDER ENFORCEMENT GOALS WE ARE MAKING FOR FUTURE UPDATINGS OF NCAP'S FOR LAOS, THAILAND AND HONG KONG IS BETTER MONITORING OF ACETIC ANHYDRIDE IMPORTS. THIS HAS BEEN REPORTED ON IN PAST, PARTICULARLY IN LAOS WHERE SEIZURES HAVE BEEN MADE, BUT SOME IMPROVEMENTS CONFIDENTIAL

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ON REGIONAL BASIS MIGHT STILL BE MADE.

8. THERE IS GREAT INTEREST IN WASHINGTON AND OTHER POSTS IN RESULTS OF AERIAL SURVEY SINCE IT IS STILL A NEW ART. CONTINUED MISSION REPORTING ON THIS PROJECT AND ITS APPLICABILITY TO DEVELOPMENT OF NCAP WILL BE VERY MUCH APPRECIATED. RUSH UNQUOTE

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